



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Sanctuary System
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
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6SAC.MIN (Amended 7/20/2003)

6th SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
The Radisson, Woburn, MA
27 March 2003

PRESENT

William Adler	
Regina Asmutis	(Alternate to Susan Farady)
Peter Auster	
Peter Borelli	
Priscilla Brooks	
Gib Chase	(Alternate to Pricilla Brooks)
Kevin Chu	
Paul Diodati	
Kathleen Dolan	
Susan Farady	
Bill Eldridge	(Alternate to Rick Nolan)
Barry Gibson	
CDR Greg Hitchen	
Porter Hoagland	(Alternate to Mason Weinrich)
Donald Hourrihan	(Alternate to John Williamson)
Paul Howard	(Ex-Officio Member)
David Pierce	
Charles Rasak	(Alternate to Richard Wheeler)
Kathi Rodriguez	(Designee for Patricia Kurkul) (Ex-Officio Member)
David Slocum	(Alternate for Jerry Hill)
Susan Snow-Cutter	
Mason Weinrich	
John Williamson	

Note: Craig MacDonald was absent due to medical condition. Nathalie Ward was on travel leave.

SBNMS AND NATIONAL PROGRAM STAFF

Ben Haskell	David Wiley	James Lindholm	Ed Lindelof
Anne Smrcina	Kate VanDine	Columbine Culberg	

OTHERS PRESENT

Not recorded.

Welcome and Approval of 5th SAC Meeting Minutes (John Williamson)

Review of Agenda (John Williamson))

Results of Issue Prioritization (Kate Van Dine)

Van Dine summarized the results of the SACs prioritization of issues at the 5th SAC meeting, 11 February 2002. She discussed the priority comparisons between those of the SAC and the Sanctuary. The tally of scores was normalized for comparison. Most of the issues were designated to be high priority by at least one of the group; the only exceptions were:

- Issue 4C—"Public Education through Curriculum Development," which both the SAC and the Sanctuary considered low priority. *Superintendent stated that public outreach efforts were the considered to be the high priority for Public Education concerns.*
- Issue 7B—"Infrastructure Development and Maintenance," for which the SAC decided to write a letter of recommendation to NMS Headquarters.

Proposed Working Groups (Kate Van Dine)

Van Dine discussed the proposed working group structure, detailing that there would be eight working groups in total: four pertaining to resource issues and four pertaining to administrative issues. Six groups would be external working groups of the SAC: Water Quality, Resource Quality, Marine Mammals, Public Outreach, Compatible Uses and Inter-Agency Cooperation; and, two groups would be internal groups: Submerged Cultural Resources and Administrative Capacity. Resource Quality and Marine Mammals would have three sub-groups, respectively. *Discussion followed elaborating developments in working group structure.*

After much discussion, the following changes in working group structure were recommended by the SAC.

<i>BEFORE</i>	<i>AFTER</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Habitat and Ecosystem Protection</i>▪ <i>Habitat and Ecosystem Protection</i>▪ <i>Habitat and Ecosystem Protection</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Site Characterization</i><i>Ecosystem Management</i><i>Ecosystem Alteration</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Condition of Water Quality and Contaminant Transport</i>▪ <i>Protection of Submerged Cultural Resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Water Quality</i><i>Marine Archaeology</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Impacts of Human Activities on Marine Mammals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Vessel Strikes on MM;</i><i>Behavioral Disturbance</i><i>Entanglement of MM</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Inter-Agency Cooperation</i>▪ <i>Public Outreach and Education</i>▪ <i>Compatibility Determination</i>▪ <i>Administrative Capacity and Infrastructure, Development and Maintenance</i>	

Working Group Process (Kate Van Dine, Ben Haskell and Dave Wiley)

The Staff described the SAC working group process, including the identification of roles and responsibilities. Additionally, the Staff noted the importance of SAC Members stating working group preferences, whether or not one wanted to be Chair, and how to receive recommendations for people or type of representation needed for working groups. Staff fielded questions.

Working Lunch—SAC Chairs and Coordinators Meeting Report (John Williamson)

Williamson presented a report to SAC regarding the Annual Meeting of the SAC Chairs and Coordinators Meeting in Santa Barbara, CA (See report dated: 26 March 2003). Policy topics for prioritization of issues common for all Sanctuaries were discussed.

Election of Officers

No nominations from the floor. Incumbent officers remain for one-year term. (Unanimous)

Unfinished Business

- Revised Summary Scoping Document—deferred to next SAC meeting
- Regulatory Coordination between National Marine Sanctuary Program and Fishery Management Agencies

Ed Lindelof noted the coordination document was an update of earlier statement of relationship between NOAA.NMS and Fisheries Council and NMFS as to how the Program coordinates on fisheries regulations. This was a long-standing statement vetted through Fisheries Service at National Headquarters.

Discussion amongst SAC included the belief that the statement is inconsistent with the statement made at designation. Questions arose regarding the following: Where is the line between fisheries management and habitat protection? Can management of fisheries activities serve as an umbrella for habitat protection?

Future SAC Meeting Dates

Suggested by SAC that a MAY SAC information meeting be held. Topics and speakers could include the following:

- Status of Fisheries and Stocks—Paul Howard
- Community Impact—Peter Auster
- Research Program—James Lindholm
- Vessel Noise—Peter Scheifele

Other Business

Public Comment

Adjourn